GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5633
ANSWERED ON:30.04.2003
DENIAL OF TREATMENT
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;KAMBALAPADU E. KRISHNAMURTHY;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL;VILAS BABURAO MUTTEMWAR

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that the patients with serious injuries who require immediate medical aid are not admitted and given first-aid by some of the Government hospitals despite Supreme Court Orders to this effect as reported in the Times of India dated April 02, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Union Government have issued any directions to the Government and private hospitals for providing first-aid to trauma victims requiring immediate medical aid;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a) & (b): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) to (e): Yes, Sir. The Hon`ble Supreme Court of India in their judgement dated 6.5.1996 in SLP (C) No.796/92-Paschim Banga Khet Mazdor Samity & Others Vs. State ofWest Bengal & Others suggested remedial measured to ensure immediate medical attention and treat to persons in real needs. Hon`ble Court had given directions that other States though not parties should also take necessary steps in the light of recommendations made by the Inquiry Committee which was set up by the State Government of West Bengal and further directions as given by the Court. The copies of the judgement of the Hon`ble Supreme Court were circulated on 12.12.1996 to all States/Union Territories with the suggestions to take appropriate action for carrying out orders of the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India. Suitable guidelines to deal with the emergency patients were also issued on 15.12.1996 to all hospitals/institutions under Central Government viz. All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, JIPMER, Pondicherry, PGIMER, Chandigarh, Safdarjur Hospital,Dr.R.M.L.Hospital and Lady Hardinge Medical College &Associated Hospitals, New Delhi. As per thesguidelines, all patients whose condition is morbid/serious should be admitted even if beds are not available and have to be paid all necessary attention. In no case the patient will be left unattended for want of vacant beds in the emergency/casualty department.

Health being a State subject under the Constitution of India,regulation of private hospitals comes under the purview of the State Governments.